

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Nashua City Hall, November 1, 2017

Co- Chair Mandy Reagan called the meeting to order at 8:05am. Mandy gave an overview of the meeting structure with this meeting being report-out from our various subcommittees.

Minutes from the October 4th meeting were reviewed. Doug Howard made a motion to approve, Alex Hamel seconded. The motion passed without objection.

Board of Directors: Mandy reported that the board will begin meeting every other month instead of every month. At our last meeting, we talked about the planning funds through the COC application and where those may be utilized. Discussion took place about our Web site and Bob Mack will be meeting with a consultant in regards to updating the information on the site. We ask that all agencies look at our web site in case they see anything out of date or need something added to the site.

Ending Homelessness: Bob Mack reported that the committee met last month. Coordinated entry has been running for two years now and most recently all the calls were being answered by the Rescue Mission. Now we have a Coordinated Entry voice menu that has been active for about 2 weeks. For example; if a veteran who is homeless calls, the call will be filtered directly to SSVF program, if someone calls that is dealing with Domestic violence their call will be routed to Bridges, if a family calls the call will be routed to Family Promise/Nashua Soup Kitchen, Single male and female calls will be routed to the Southern NH Rescue Mission, NSKS and Maple Arms Shelter. It is important that once a client comes to our agency to ask them how did they hear about us. That way if they state they came from Coordinated Entry then we need to enter them into HMIS or do the CE intake form so someone that has the HMIS system can enter in. The Bureau of Homelessness and Housing is conducting three information sessions about plans for the statewide coordinated entry system starting November 6th at 77 Northeastern Blvd Nashua, November 7th in Dover, November 9th in Concord. An email was sent out to all about this.

Community Relations: Wendy LeBlanc reported on behalf of Pat Murphy that this committee has not met recently, However, if there is a need they will go out and educate folks in the community about us and what we do.

Data Gathering Committee: Heather Nelson reported on behalf of Akshat Gadgil that they are currently working on AHAR (annual Housing Assessment Report) which is a requirement of HUD.

Employment Committee: Donna Marceau reported that Employment Connect was a success this year with many employers. We are thinking of changing the event for May 2018 instead of doing it in late September as that may help us attract folks coming out of college.

Something for providers to be aware of is that many are many clients coming in with zero documentations such as Social Security cards or ID.

Due to the Employment Connect event, 3 clients from the Soup Kitchen were hired and through the new bike Program they were able to eliminate the transportation barrier by providing a voucher to the individual so they can buy a bike and be able to ride their bike to work. They also provided clients with a bike lock and a helmet.

Youth Committee: Doug Howard reported that the committee has not yet met locally, but he has been going to the balance of State meetings. On December 6th from 5:00pm-7:30 many youth advocates will be meeting at 45 High St. Welcoming Light, to discuss what we are currently doing, what the schools are doing. This will be a great collaboration.

Shelter Director: No Shelter director meeting to report.

Inactive Policy: Discussion took place in regards to Inactive Policy, Nicole Robbins gave a hand-out to all, explaining the policy. Many clients entered into HMIS (over 2,200) have been in the system for a long time., some as long as 6 years. The State is going to be going through the HMIS system "Names List". If the client has not been located by outreach or other attempts and they have had no services or shelter in the past 3 months they will be moved to the Inactive list. Looking for strategies on how to better track this. We need a Coordinated Entry process with HMIS.

Announcements:

Bob Mack shared that Project Homeless Connect is happening on January 24, 2018 at 45 High St. Flyers/registration were emailed out to the committee and brought some registration forms today.

Heather Nelson shared that the Partnership for Successful Living is hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner for those in need.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05AM. *Minutes taken by Magaly Rios, Case Manager Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force-PSL*